



**Grant
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 15
AGENDA DATE: Thu 01/29/2004
PAGE: 1 of 2**

SUBJECT: Approve a resolution authorizing application and acceptance of \$159,511 in grant renewal funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program, to continue enforcement of juvenile Class C criminal offenses and referral to support services.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Grant funding is available from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, for the grant period of August 1, 2004 through July 31, 2005. A cash match of \$17,723 is required and is included in the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Operating Budget and will be proposed in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Operating Budget of the Police Department. Continued operation of this program is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING Police
DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION: Rick Coy**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Coy, Assistant Chief/974-5021

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: 1/9/03 grant renewal application.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

This action approves a resolution authorizing the City to apply for and accept \$159,511 in renewal funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program. Council action is necessary because the grantor requires a resolution that reflects acceptance of the grant award. The grant period runs from August 1, 2004 – July 31, 2005. A match of \$17,723 is required and is included in the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Operating Budget and will be proposed in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Operating Budget of the Police Department.

This funding will be used to expand enforcement action and referral to support services for youth that have committed Class C criminal offenses such as curfew violations, alcohol charges, and petty theft. Offenders must appear in court with their parent for a hearing before a municipal court judge. If they fail to appear in court and/or the youth does not complete diversion program requirements, a warrant is issued.

Increasingly youth are aware that aggressive follow-up action is not being taken when they have outstanding warrants. The purpose of this grant program is to enhance juvenile accountability. Therefore the project focus is on reducing the warrant backlog and outreach to youth with outstanding warrants.

A temporary full-time and a temporary part-time administrative assistant will be responsible for entering the municipal court citations into a computer database and identifying youth with outstanding warrants. A temporary youth counselor/caseworker will work closely with the Austin Independent School District to contact parents and make them aware of the law regarding the consequences of outstanding youth warrants. The counselor will help the parents to schedule a court hearing and will make referrals to social services organizations where needed.



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In addition to staffing, the funding will also support Project Inspire which is one of the deferral program options. Project Inspire is affiliated with APD's faith network and AISD High Schools in northeast Austin. The program combines mentor support with tutoring and character development. APD will also conduct a "youth warrant round-up" in cooperation with AISD to insure youth take action on the warrants and avoid further enforcement action.

An advisory group has been established to provide oversight on the program and includes the presiding municipal court judge, representatives from Austin Independent School District, a representative from the District Attorney's Office, a Travis County Constable, and three Austin Police Department officers involved in the project.

An overview of the budget follows:

Temporary 40hr/wk Case Worker	\$39,588
Temporary 40hr/wk Admin Assist	\$26,869
Temporary 20hr/wk Admin Assist	\$13,435
Equipment, supplies and mileage reimbursement	\$11,500
Case worker/officer training on youth programs	\$1,500
Project Inspire Diversion Program	\$15,000
Officer overtime for youth warrant roundup	\$69,342
Total Grant Budget	\$177,234

This grant addresses the Department goal to improve the quality of life so that Austin's residents live, work and play in clean, safe neighborhoods. It also addresses the following APD Activity Objective: The purpose of Centralized Investigations, Youth Services includes *the Diversion of juvenile offenders from the criminal justice system through alternative programs.*

The effectiveness of the program will be measured as follows:

Measure	2004 Target (8/1/04-7/31/05)
% of youth and their parents with outstanding Class C warrants contacted by APD Caseworker	50%
% of contacted youth who appear in court after Caseworker Contact	80%
Number of youth apprehended and adjudicated during youth round up	500
Number of outstanding youth Class C warrants in APD system after grant year end (currently 1,675)	50% reduction in outstanding warrants

During the first year of the program, the Case Worker is expected to contact at least 50% of the 1,000 youth and their parents with outstanding warrants. As the backlog is reduced, and future grant funding exists, 100% of youth should be contacted. In addition, APD expects to see a 50% reduction in the number of outstanding youth Class C

RESOLUTION NO. 04

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Austin, to authorize the application for and acceptance of \$159,511 in grant renewal funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program, to continue enforcement of juvenile Class C criminal offenses and referral to support services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the proposed application for and acceptance of State grant renewal funds for said project, in the amount of \$159,511 from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program, to continue enforcement of juvenile Class C criminal offenses and referral to support services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council agrees to provide the applicable cash match for the said project as required by the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program grant application; and

WHEREAS, the City Council designates the Assistant City Manager, Laura Huffman, as the authorized official who has the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate this grant; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has agreed that in the event of loss or misuse of the Criminal Justice Division funds, the City Council assures that the funds will be returned to the Criminal Justice Division in full; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Council approves the application for and acceptance of grant funding from the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division in the amount of \$159,511.

ADOPTED: _____, 2004
ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk

MGC:GLA\RCA\2004\#4271 Juvenile Accountability Incentive\David Douglas\bj